Testimony/Opposition to SB16 and HB5416 Testimony/Support for HB541, HB388, HB5412 March 13th, 2022

To whom it concerns:

I'd like to clearly communicate that I request that you OPPOSE both SB16 and HB5416. These proposed laws are written to restrict the law-abiding citizen who chooses to legally exercise his/her rights and to defend themselves.

Last year, between the months of January and July, 31,170 new carry permits were processed. That figure is more than double the total number of permits issued in 2019.

The right to keep and bear arms is a constitutional right, and one that ensures the survival of all other rights. I oppose all new legislation that would further restrict purchase, owning, carrying, and using firearms for all lawful purposes.

I absolutely believe crime needs to be addressed, we have an ongoing problem particularly with juveniles in this state. This series of proposed laws will only create more criminals while doing nothing to stop crime.

We do not have a crime epidemic with 'pre-ban' rifles or firearms with 'arm braces'. Outlawing the mentioned firearms (and more) does nothing to stop crime in our state while attacking the rights of hundreds of thousands of permit holders statewide.

In addition to OPPOSING SB16 AND HB5416, I fully SUPPORT HB388, HB5415, AND HB5412. I find it concerning that in a nation where attacks are more frequently occurring places of worship, that we wouldn't join the rest of the nation in enabling citizens to defend themselves at church. Failure to address and pass these bills only shows Connecticut voters the true intentions of those who do not support these bills.

Support of HB5415 is equally important. Anyone who already possesses an 'assault weapon' must be able to transfer their 'assault weapons' to another individual who also owns these firearms. They have obviously proven themselves in the last decade as responsible firearm owners. Responsible gun ownership is a figure that is growing at record rates in this country and Connecticut is no exception.

One only must look to current events domestically, and across the globe to understand the importance of free people having the means to protect life, liberty, and country from evil and tyranny.

Thank you for reading my testimony, and for careful consideration of these bills.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Giasullo Stratford CT. 06614

CC: State Senator Kevin Kelly

CC: State Representative Phil Young